

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: [2803] "dipole" hamsticks use
Message-ID: <n1402840605.48615@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

L. B. Cebik wondered if anyone had used two Hamsticks in a Dipole configuration.

He is not on this list, but I thought I would mention the way Bruce Williams, WA6IVC demonstrates the MXM kits at area ham fests. He has a concrete filled coffee can into which he sticks a pole (PVC?) and upon that he can mount two helical antennas either as vertical or horizontal dipoles. In the confines of the ham fest tables it is more often vertical. This provides strong signals on his receivers that he demos with a small speaker box, and brings a good crowd to his table.

I imagine, these would work as a quick camp antenna, and especially give some interesting experiments in comparing horizontal vs. vertical orientation. A couple of 3/8-24 threaded base mounts set up to take lugs from the coax feed would form the center insulator, and support for the Hamsticks. As someone indicated, CB type mounts can be had that afford versatile ways of clamping them to cylinder supports such as mirror arms or pipe. Often, these are available at reduced cost when the CB section of some discount store 'cleans up' their stock, and closes out slow moving items. At QRP levels, there are adequate insulators to be had of fiber shoulder type that come in a 3/8 hole version. One could home brew a bracket that would use these insulators, and mount the sticks. A waterproofing compound could be used on the fiber washers to extend their life.

72, Stuart K5KVH

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: dwatson@nskernel.tandem.com (watson_dan)
Subject: [2793] --> Any Gap Titan Stories <--
Message-ID: <9508241524.AA03281@razorback.nskernel.tandem.com>

Hi,

I have an old message from Stuart Rohre, who says wonderful things about the Gap Titan vertical. It's time for me to get something into the air other than the Radio Shack hookup wire I use from time to time, and I wondered whether anyone else on the list has anything to say about the Titan, pro or con, hints and quirks. I'm expecting I'll call them tomorrow to place the order, but I wanted to check with this august group first :-) !

Thanks in advance for any comments you may have,

Dan
AC6PI (formerly N6QGI)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: phil.heaton@wa4bro.atl.ga.us (PHIL HEATON)
Subject: [2802] 2SC373 Gain/voltage
Message-ID: <8AFB461.01FA0003A6.uuout@wa4bro.atl.ga.us>

SW> Anyone had a data book on 2SC373's. What is the Beta ? Vce ?
SW> thanks

Vcb = 70
Vce = 70
Veb = 4
Pd = 0.6W

Phil, KE4KRT

.. Chi Chi Chi Chirp Chi Chirp

___ Blue Wave/QWK v2.20

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: smitht@virago.sps.mot.com (Trevor G. Smith)
Subject: [2788] CMOS Superkeyer III problems
Message-ID: <9508241441.AA07152@virago.sps.mot.com>

Finally bolted together the CMOS SK III kit and was amazed to find it didnt work.

needless to say I broke out the scope and it does have some functionality and clock signals but no 'OK' on power on or sensible CW out.

All parts placement/values are correct nad no solder bridges.

Just wondered if anyone has received and built a working SK III ?.

Trevor AB5EU G3WQO

--

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [2795] Fox Applications
Message-ID: <199508241632.RAA04812@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

SECOND ANNUAL QRP-L FOX HUNT ACTIVITY

I'm looking for two or three more foxes west of a vertical line between western border of WI and LA.

We really need someone in ND,SD,MT,WY area and the states of AZ,NV, and ID.

At the present time I have 14 stns east of the Mississippi river and 9 to the west of same. I account this to the population density of the USofA.

This is the last call for foxii. Activity to begin week of Oct 1 and last until the end of March. The operating times will be determined by the foxes and the foxes only, as they are the main contributors of their valuable time. All foxes must be a member of this list.

I have 500 certificates, so there will be a certificate for everyone on the list who participates. Two prizes consisting of the new NN1G rigs and whatever else I can get contributed.

If you have applied, don't email me. I have you on the list.

dit dit

Sign on Dallas DART Bus - Altoids, the only mints in a can.
Altoids, practice on the other mints first.

: -)

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com

Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: CLATON.CADMUS@hamlink.mn.org (CLATON CADMUS)
Subject: [2781] HAMSTICK CAUTION !
Message-ID: <809219381.AA03385@hamlink.mn.org>

Hello Gang,

It would seem that the lakewood mag mount just doesn't quite make it with the hamstick. Well, here's an idea for you. Remove the round flat style magnet from an old car stereo speaker. Place it beneath the car roof through the hole in the headliner when the dome light is removed. Position the mount directly above it on the top of the car roof(of course). If the lower magnet is situated correctly, it should increase the bonding by quite a bit.

If you try this idea and it works, remember to give me credit. If it doesn't work, it was your idea!

73 de Claton Cadmus, KA0GKC

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-----  
| FIDOnet= Claton Cadmus 1:282/100 |  
| INTERNet= Claton.Cadmus@hamlink.mn.org |  
| PACKETnet= KA0GKC@WB0GDB.#STP.MN.USA.NA |  
-----
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If anything I have written makes any cents, I claim copyright!
* SLMR 2.1a * I think I've lost my mind. Please watch where you step!

---NoSnail v1.17

HAM>link< RBBS - Serving the Amateur Radio Community Since 1983

- 612/HAM-0000 v.34 Ham Radio Spoken Here!!
- 612/HAM-1010 v.32b Reply to sender @ hamlink.mn.org

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: adam@philadelphia.libertynet.org (Adam O'Donnell)
Subject: [2778] Homebrewers Tale of WOE
Message-ID: <9508240436.AA30093@philadelphia.libertynet.org>

Dateline:

Two Weeks Ago: My beloved 13.8v 8amp power supply bit the dust. No more 2 meters. My only connection to amateur radio (except for the QRP-L list and a HF rig that is waiting for a ground rod) was lost.

This morning (approx 11:00am): I rolled out of bed.

Five minutes later: I woke up.

Ten minutes after that: I got off the floor and decided after I ate and got dressed, it was time to build a new power supply.

Ten minutes after that (now like 11:30): I ate a bowl of something grain based. I hope it was cereal... mental note: running low on grain based ferret food.

Noon: Hunted around my room and scrounged up some parts, including:

- 120v - 25v transformer

- LM371 variable regulator

- 4700uF 50v cap

- Basic Electronics book with a power supply in it.

12:30: Picked up the ol' trusty 10 speed and set out to Radio Shark. Spent \$15 on pots, perfboard, wire, heatsink, and grease. Money grubbing bastards.

12:30 - 5:00: Planning, Soldering, cursing, soldering, burning myself, repeat

5:00 - 5:30: I ate something.

5:30 - 10:00: Working again.

10:00 - 11:00: Testing the power supply. It doesn't work. The damned thing draws over an amp out of a 100k resistor. That is the only load. No explanation. I went through all the wiring. It is correct.

11:02: discharged filter cap across right hand.

11:30: became conscious again. turned on Letterman.

12:30: Writing this rant.

I HATE IT WHEN I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING THIS USELESS! FOR GOD'S SAKE!
IT'S LIKE A CARPENTER BUILDING HIS OWN HAMMER. IT IS SOMETHING THAT HE
COULD BUY OFF THE SHELF...

I feel better... hehehe

any other sob stories.

72

--

Adam O'Donnell, N3RCS
Amsat: N3RCS@AMSAT.ORG
Internet: ADAM@LIBERTYNET.ORG

"I want to know how God created this world. I am not interested in this or that phenomenon. I want to know His thoughts, the rest are details."

-- Albert Einstein

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: Gary.Sehne@amd.com (Gary Sehne)
Subject: [2787] MFJ QRP Tuner
Message-ID: <199508241410.AA155443430@render.amd.com>

I've had the MFJ QRP tuner on order from Texas Towers for about 3 weeks now. Texas Towers has it backordered with no delivery time estimate.

A call to MFJ resulted in them not having them either. Some trouble with supplier?? Any one hear of what's going on there?

I'm itching to get that tuner. BTW--Does it have balanced line output too or is it strictly a SO-239 output to antenna?

BTW-On the camping light thread-- I've used a super bright LED that I built into one of those disposable swivel head flashlights and I can rest it right on top of the rig and angle the light any way I need.

On the SWL30 rig, I put a bi-color led, which I use for RIT & transmit on the front panel. So when I need light, I just turn on the RIT and keep the control at "no offset" and use the light to hardcopy code.

Speaking of "grain of wheat" lights, I found some tubular miniature lamps, thinner than a fuse, with wire pigtails that run off of 12V. they are slim enough to provide light between the HW-8 tuning dial & plastic shield. I haven't installed any yet, but since it's a long filament, it should provide a more even pattern than the point source. Its low current (about 50ma?) but my vote is still the LEDs for efficiency. Tanner Electronics in Dallas has several super bright LEDs and also is the source for the aforementioned bulbs. Just remember to include a small current limit resistor with the LED.

Good point made about the yellow LEDs being non-attractors to bugs, I wonder if the sidetone annoys mosquitoes as well, hihi.
de N2KTY(Gary) gary.sehne@amd.com

BTW the 3Day Summary page on the WWW comes up as an empty page??Can't read from it in 2 days. Help.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: Gary.Sehne@amd.com (Gary Sehne)
Subject: [2789] MFJ QRP tuner,etc
Message-ID: <199508241459.AA156426381@render.amd.com>

I'm having trouble getting the MFJ QRP tuner. Its been on order from Texas Towers for 3 weeks with no estimated delivery.

A call to MFJ revealed that they were having trouble with their source?? Don't they make them themselves??or maybe they meant a componet of the box. Has anyone had similar trouble. Even MFJ couldn't give us a date...

Does the MFJ QRP tuner have balanced line output also, or just S0-239??

On the camp light thread....I modified a disposable swivel head flashlight to hold a superbright red LED works great, works all night and more.

Also, Tanner has a thin filament-type bulb, 12v which can slip between the dial & plastic screen of a HW-8 which distributes light better than a point source. Also low current. About 50 cents.

Have been unable to view the 3Day summary on WWW for last 2 days. Says that page is empty. Have been without "ears" on the newslist & I miss it!

Also immensely enjoyed the QRP talk at Austin Summerfest. But you probably already heard that. Have good pix but no means to scan & post. 72s N2KTY(Gary) email at gary.sehne@amd.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Subject: [2806] OHR
Message-ID: <AECED6C8E@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

Did everyone read the OHR 40 meter Explorer review in the latest Worldradio?

Tim
WB9NLZ

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: [2786] OHR On-Line
Message-ID: <01HUG2ANJ8SY98765Z@tntech.edu>

All,

I notice while reading the archives that there was a message posted from Chuck about OHR being on-line. When I went to read the message with this header, the message was something different.. have no idea whether it was the way it was archived or what.

Anyway Dick from Oak Hills now has an email address:
ohrqpr@aol.com

He is also investigating getting on the Web.

I am anxiously awaiting both my 4 bander and my SSB kit from Norcal. It has been a while since I have built anything. .and having severe building withdrawl :-)

72, 73 and still counting.

Jeff, AC4HF

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@bbs.abs.net (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: [2779] QRP ARCI members--Hall of Fame
Message-ID: <1995Aug24.004321.24883@abs.net>

Attention QRP ARCI members: Nominations are now being accepted for the 1996 voting for the QRP Hall of Fame. Although the announcement won't be made to the general membership until the October issue of the QRP Quarterly (which WILL come out in October!), here's your chance to get a head start if you were planning on nominating someone. This early announcement doesn't really give any unfair advantage to anyone, since there will still be a 3 month period for submissions after the October issue appears. However, it WILL spread out my workload a bit :-)

Please note that while you may submit anyone for the honor, even if they are not a member of the QRP ARCI, only members may submit nominations. This is not a subtle ploy to get more people to join up, but if you are a non-member and feel strongly that someone should be in the QRP Hall of Fame, there is nothing to stop you from joining up so you can submit the nomination :-). And as a "bonus", you'll get four issues of the QRP Quarterly (USPS willing, anyhow).

The following is the text as submitted to the editor of the QRP Quarterly for the October 1995 issue.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE QRP HALL OF FAME, 1996

Michael A. Czuhajewski WA8MCQ
7945 Citadel Drive
Severn, MD 21144

e-mail: wa8mcq@bbs.abs.net

The QRP Hall of Fame is an honor bestowed by the QRP ARCI for outstanding accomplishments with QRP and/or on behalf of the QRP community. The first four inductees were announced at Dayton in 1992: Doug DeMaw, W1FB; Rev. George Dobbs, G3RJV; Roy Lewallen, W7EL; and Randy Rand, AA2U.

Although we'd prefer that this be an annual event, for some reason there was no activity in 1993 or 1994. We tried to get it moving again for 1995; we called for nominations and received several, but things didn't work out. One mistake was planning on doing the voting at the official Board/Officers meeting at Dayton--there simply was not enough time, especially since the meeting was scheduled immediately before the QRP Banquet. (Anyone who has been to Dayton knows that we really need a full week for the QRP activities!)

There was also substantial turbulence in the "power structure" of the QRP ARCI during the year, with lots of people coming and going. That was definitely a contributing factor since there were many administrative details of the HoF process to be worked out and approved, and that takes lots of time, especially with a "mail order club". We wanted to push ahead with the 1995 voting, even though it would be several months late, but other problems popped up and we had to accept the inevitable--the Hall of Fame has skipped another year. Our apologies to all, especially those who submitted nominations.

QRP ARCI President N8CQA asked me if I would honcho the HoF, and I accepted the task. Those of you with Navy experience can call me CINCFAME. If things fall through the cracks again, at least you'll have a specific person to take the blame!

SEND NOMINATIONS NOW

Nominations are now being accepted from QRP ARCI members for the 1996 inductions into the QRP Hall of Fame. If you wish to submit someone for this honor, please send a nominating letter or e-mail to me; my postal and e-mail addresses appear above. Deadline for receipt is the last day of January, 1996. Voting will take place after that, with results to be announced publicly at Dayton. (If you made a submission for 1995, you must send another; I was unable to obtain those nominations.)

Although anyone can be elected to the HoF whether or not they are a member of the QRP ARCI, nominations will only be accepted from members. Please include your membership number with your nomination for verification.

While they may be as simple as "I nominate Joe Blow for the QRP Hall of Fame", their chances will be much improved if you include one or two brief paragraphs with specific reasons why you believe they are worthy of the honor. One of the Directors recently told me, "I would go into it with the attitude that no one is worthy, but I'll read the letters of nomination to see if I am wrong. And I'm sure that I will be proven wrong." Be sure to include some specific facts and details to support the nomination; you may feel that Joe Blow deserves it, but you have to convince us!

What is required for induction into the QRP Hall of Fame? There are no hard and fast rules, nor specific "squares to fill." The award is to be based on one or more of the following: technical or writing accomplishments, operating accomplishments (contesting, award achievement, net operations, etc), service to the organization, significant QRP promotion activity, other significant activity and/or accomplishments. (There is no requirement that nominees be members of the QRP ARCI.)

There are no numerical quotas for the Hall of Fame; there is no limit on how many can be inducted each year, but there is also nothing that says we must admit anyone at all. It's up to you; if you know of someone who has made outstanding contributions to QRP in some way and feel they deserve the honor, write it up and send it in!

--qrp--

[end of article]

A final reminder: while anyone can be nominated for and voted into the HoF, only members of the QRP ARCI (the sponsoring organization) may submit nominations, and must include their membership number for verification.

73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

--

Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ abs.net

E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@bbs.abs.net

The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA

Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995

From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)

Subject: [2796] QRP-L Logo

Message-ID: <199508241902.UAA05173@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

Someone mentioned yesterday or day before that we outta have a logo/patch. And I apologize that I don't have your name in front of me at this time. We will give you credit for the idea.

Now for an implementation scheme.

1. Create your idea(s) and get them into .gif and .ps (PostScript) format.
2. We'll have Jim Eshlman at LeHigh.EDU set aside a directory in which to put them along with how to put them in the incoming directory.
3. We need a cutoff date, say September 15th to terminate input.
4. We'll then list them for everyone's examination and then we will as a group vote on one to become the official "patch" of the IQ Club (Internet QRP-L Club). No officers, no paperwork, no newsletter, and only one meeting a year and that is at Dayton.

I personally think, and it is only my opinion that we need PostScript. It is easier to transport, scale, and is exact. If I print it here and you print it there, we both get the same thing. My suggestion only. If we get a .gif and can't come up with PostScript, so be it.

Steve H. can also put them at his www-site possibly for evaluation if

he so sees fit to do so.

Everyone gets to vote and majority rules.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: [2804] TACC-1
Message-ID: <01HUGI60CG6A98765Z@tntech.edu>

Howdi,

anyone actual get and build one of the new S&S qrp kits yet..
anyone know if they have them on any bands other than 80 meters?

72,
Jeff, AC4HF

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: phil.heaton@wa4bro.atl.ga.us (PHIL HEATON)
Subject: [2801] The Amateur's Code -
Message-ID: <8AFB461.01FA0003A7.uuout@wa4bro.atl.ga.us>

Rh> What I have learned in my short year and 3 months as a ham is that no
Rh> coders really get the short end of the stick. They are completely
Rh> discriminated against due to their lack of wanting to learn morse code.

[snip]

Rh> It seems learning code has kept these type of people off of the hf
Rh> bands thankfully, but then again there are a lot of no coders that
Rh> woule be an asset to hf.

Even though this story gave me a warm fuzzy feeling, what has it
to do with QRP'n?

Phil, KE4KRT

___ Blue Wave/OS/2 v2.20

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: BRUCE3900@delphi.com
Subject: [2805] Who's listening, AND when
Message-ID: <01HUGLCXHL6A9FMBFH@delphi.com>

Group,

We've all encountered the graceless operator who bolts when we tell him we're QRP, haven't we? The oft heard excuse for this behavior is that is it just too much trouble to copy our puny little signals through all that noise.

Well, well -- suppose we were some rare bit of DX? Would we be too much trouble then? And, where is he going to get the practice to copy that puny little DX signal through all the noise (in spite of its automatic 30 db signal improvement based on rarity)?

Face it, your fellow ham copies whatever he copies based on some personal incentive system. If you fail to reach a high enough point on his scale to warrant a little extra effort on his part, he may not be worth your effort to push the key.

73,

Uncle Brucie -- W6TOY/3
QRP, Really!

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: jess.gypin@dinosaur.com
Subject: [2777] Xpost and QRP controversy
Message-ID: <9508232145.0UKJS00@dinosaur.com>

Here is a series of messages that were pulled off of the local DX cluster here KE6LT. I thought that this group might get a bang out of it. Some will get angry,

I hope not as that is not the intent. I was the instigator. The first message is the response to my message that follows second, and my reply to the response that is last. Unfortunately, this radio philosophy as expressed here is more wide spread than could be expected. I am just glad that QRP'ers are a congenial and social group. QRP was the salvation of my radio experience as I was completely out out by some attitudes expressed by the "big guns" when I was just starting out and found DX. Thank God not every one in the world thinks that you have to have a huge antenna farm and gobs of power and radios to be considered a serious and skilled operator. My Kudos to the group.

Glad I found QRP and this group.
Jess

>From the KE6LT DX cluster 08-21-95

Sayeth the DXer

'Lest there be any confusion about the motivation for the 30m QRP spot posted by this "DX Crumudgeon" here follows the rationale. The post was not to necessarily promote QRP operation.... as the saying goes... "life's to short..." you know the rest! The posting's purpose was to show just how EASY it is to work long haul stations with good antennas. 3B8CF has a consistently outstanding signal from an outstanding QTH near our antipode. Yes I have turned down the power on numerous occasions to see how well my signal could be heard under good condx. Other examples are a ZL & JA on 80m w/ 2w. EU on 20m w/2w. It was attempted for curiosity, not for QRP thrills. Calculations will easily show that if one is S9+, reducing power by 30db below a KW will still support communications. There is nothing more pathetic than a station calling and signing his call followed by /QRP. Just because he wants that thrill, should I have to struggle to hear him through the noise? This hobby is about communication with others, not testing link calculations. Do enjoy 30m, it is a fun band with excellent propagation where much can be achieved with modest setups, not miniscule setups that try the abilities and patience of others. I step off my soapbox and leave you these controversies. Let the damnation begin.
CUL Keith "Crusher" Ericson K0KE

My first post

Subj: QRP Thrills

There are thrills below a kilowatt after all. This spot was encouraging to me as I thought all DXer's had to run at least a kilowatt to feel like they were part of the "real operators".

10101.5 3B8CF 21-Aug-1995 0332Z wrkd w/ 2w qrp, 559! <K0KE>

It is encouraging especially for me since I decided about 1 year ago to concentrate almost exclusively on low power operation with simple wire antennas. Since that time I have had more fun building my own rigs and antennas than I can tell you. If you think that it is a ball working DX with a kilowatt and a 100 foot tribander or quadruple square, imagine the buzz you will get working the same contact with 1-5 watts on a wire! I love chasing DX but nothing can match the thrill of DX at low power. Sure the contacts come harder and in some cases the "rare" ones are impossible, but it sure puts some spice back in the game for the SA's and VK's and ZL's and etc etc when you get a 5?9 whatever at low power levels.

I was on 30 the other night and had just finished a Q with a guy in Seattle and heard F050U calling me. I was using 700 millawatts into a half square on 30 meters.

During the low sunspot cycle, when the rare ones are not to be found, try a little low power pile up action on the ones that you already have, nothing will sharpen your pile up technique quicker than busting one at 5 watts.

Glad to see the interest here on the cluster, especially by some of the DX crumudgeons! HI!

Best to all

Jess

VP Colorado QRP Club

And my final response

32717 From: N0TFI Date: 23-Aug 1312Z Subj: QRP and other controversy

Just to clear up a couple of things. The meaning of the word HI in text messages is JUST KIDDING! My message about QRP operation was intended for some light

hearted fun poking. I WELL KNOW that there are those out there that may not agree with the philosophy of low power operation. There are those that equate QRP operators as an annoyance on the bands. The nice thing about radio is that there is enough different modes to offer interest to all. I think that all ham operators should do what is needed to promote ALL phases of the hobby where ever and when ever possible to create good press. I have gone back and read my post on QRP and some of the wording that was intended to amuse, easily could have been misinterpreted. My apologies to all that may have not understood the intent. The intent was to poke a little good natured fun and to encourage those that are interested to try a little low power operation during the times of NOTHING on the bands just for fun. That is the point of all of this

after all. Radio is a HOBBY. If one person enjoys low power operation and another likes running high power, so what? The one thing that they have in common is both are Ham operators and enjoy radio. That should create an atmosphere of social camaraderie (I know that I cannot spell hi) not hostility.

If there are DX crumudgeons, then I am one as well. I do not have the ability here to run kilowatts and kilobux for a station. That does not however limit the fun that is available to me. One does NOT need to possess 2000 foot towers and 200,000 watt leeeeeniers to be a DXer. I do not want to turn this into a life philosophy controversy.

Point being that the post was intended for fun poking and to spice up what has been little interesting activity on the cluster lately.

I accomplished a little activity on the cluster alright!

Nuff said

Best to all (even you Kevin, IT'S a JOKE!!)

>From the great "pathetic" signal generator

73 es 72 Jess

Quite interesting indeed.

Best

Jess

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: [2798] Re: --> Any Gap Titan Stories <--
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950824140149.13102A-100000@ume>

On Thu, 24 Aug 1995, watson_dan wrote:

> Hi,
>
> I have an old message from Stuart Rohre, who says wonderful things
> about the Gap Titan vertical. It's time for me to get something
> into the air other than the Radio Shack hookup wire I use from time
> to time, and I wondered whether anyone else on the list has anything
> to say about the Titan, pro or con, hints and quirks. I'm expecting
> I'll call them tomorrow to place the order, but I wanted to check
> with this august group first :-) !
> AC6PI (formerly N6QGI)

My vote is buy a support structure that would allow you to put up more
wires and higher wires!~ ;-)

* VE6GK
Phone 403-271-5123 Fax 403-225-1276 * "Power is no substitute for skill"

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: Bob Patten <z002816b@bcfreenet.seflin.lib.fl.us>
Subject: [2784] Re: 75 ohm BNC in 50 ohm system?
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9508240858.A481-0100000@bcfreenet>

On Wed, 23 Aug 1995, Goran Hosinsky wrote:

> I am going to use BNC. My antenna system etc is the
> standard 50 ohm but I have a lot of 75 ohm BNC contacts
> (in the observatory we have made the change from video

> cameras - which used a lot of 75 ohm coax and connectors -
>
> I think that with the cords being short in relation to
> wavelength the impedance bump (SWR 1.5) would have negligible
> influence on the system but if anyone has experience or
> different ideas I would like to hear about them.
>

Yes, 75 ohm BNC terminations work fine for this application. I work for a Miami TV station and have used them for many years as dummy loads for QRP rigs. But a side note which I learned the hard way. Do NOT use 75 ohm terminations when networking computers via Ethernet thinline! It causes very erratic behaviour...

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: LVE1@inel.gov (Larry East)
Subject: [2792] RE: Hamsticks
Message-ID: <9508241510.AA06969@garnet.inel.gov>

Just got a new 30M Hamstick and mounted it on my mini-motor home last night. I used a CB-type mirror mount (from RS) to mount it to a tie-down bar, about 6 feet from the back of the motor home in the center of the roof. Works great -- but I imagine the 130 or so square feet of metal roof helps! Tuned it for minimum SWR with my Autek Antenna Analyzer (GREAT little gadget!), and it indicated a final SWR of about 1.9:1 from 10.09 to 10.17 MHz -- although it showed an impedance of about 40 Ohms (maybe not exactly at resonance?). I used an old Heath Kit HT-9 tuner (similar in construction to most of MFJ tuners) to match it to my QRP+ and made a couple of contacts (AZ and OR -- not exactly DX from ID but so what!) I could probably get by without a tuner, actually.

The bloody thing (the antenna, that is) sure sticks up high, so don't think I'll leave it mounted when on the road!

If your car has a luggage rack, you should consider using a mirror mount attached to it for mobile antennas.

72, Larry W1HUE/7

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: cebik@UTKVMX.UTCC.UTK.EDU
Subject: [2794] RE: Hamsticks
Message-ID: <Pine.PMDF.3.91.950824111854.545404478A-100000@utkvmx.utk.edu>

On Thu, 24 Aug 1995, Larry East wrote:

> Just got a new 30M Hamstick and mounted it on my mini-motor home last night.
> The bloody thing (the antenna, that is) sure sticks up high, so don't think
> I'll leave it mounted when on the road!
> If your car has a luggage rack, you should consider using a mirror mount
> attached to it for mobile antennas.

Has anyone tried using a pair of hamsticks or comparable mobile antennas in a horizontal dipole configuration? A rotatable dipole can be quite effective for portable ops, especially if it can be elevated a good bit (relative to wavelength). An interesting comparison for someone with the time, energy, and equipment: an A vs B test between the inefficiencies but lower take-off angle of a mobile vertical (even with improved GP for portable ops) and the greater efficiency but higher t-o angle of a low (1/8 to 3/8 wavelength) height of most portable installations for dipoles.

For some interesting reading on antenna height vs. t-o angle for dx operations, see the current QEX.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995

From: myers@bigboy73.West.Sun.COM (Dana Myers)

Subject: [2780] Re: Homebrewers Tale of WOE

Message-ID: <199508240507.WAA09444@sunspot.West.Sun.COM>

> From adam@philadelphia.libertynet.org Wed Aug 23 21:40:57 1995

> Two Weeks Ago: My beloved 13.8v 8amp power supply bit the dust. No more
> 2 meters. My only connection to amateur radio (except for the QRP-L list
> and a HF rig that is waiting for a ground rod) was lost.

Usually, these power supplies are either (a) really easy to fix or
(b) an excellent basis to make a good power supply....

My buddy just called me up two nights ago to fix his 13.8V 35A supply (actually pretty nice, though not an Astron). He had the schematic, though it is a 723 based design so even a schematic might not be required. I drove 2.5 miles to his house, spent 10 minutes diagnosing the problem (failed 723) and making sure the pass transistors were OK (used a 1k-ish resistor to inject some current into the pass driver transistor base; output immediately jumps up without load). Drove home, got 723 and my solder sucker and replaced it in 15 minutes. Then I spent 10 minutes finding the spade connector that was loose on the PCB after moving it around...

Guess what? Works fine now. Sometimes it is easier to fix it.
Never mind the endless supply of beer I was provided ;-).

> This morning (approx 11:00am): I rolled out of bed.

>

> Five minutes later: I woke up.

My alarm was set for 4a, but I was dreaming I was in some kind of mortal combat with some creature that kept attacking me; turns out it was the alarm clock.

> Noon: Hunted around my room and scrounged up some parts, including:

>

> 120v - 25v transformer

> LM371 variable regulator

> 4700uF 50v cap

> Basic Electronics book with a power supply in it.

>

> 12:30: Picked up the ol' trusty 10 speed and set out to Radio Shark.

> Spent \$15 on pots, perfboard, wire, heatsink, and grease. Money grubbing

> bastards.

Hmph... how did your old supply blow up? If the transformer is good and the case is OK, you could have saved \$15...

[deletia]

> I HATE IT WHEN I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING THIS USELESS! FOR GOD'S SAKE!

> IT'S LIKE A CARPENTER BUILDING HIS OWN HAMMER. IT IS SOMETHING THAT HE

> COULD BUY OFF THE SHELF...

Yeah; I'm getting over the urge to "save money" and build it myself. I build plenty of things, even simple things I could buy, but the issues are (to me):

A) Can I learn from building it?

B) Can I really build it cheaper?

C) Will I enjoy building it?

Usually the thirst for knowledge wins; you can't build anything cheaper anymore, it seems. Sure, I can build something out of toilet paper rolls and salvage parts, but the motivation is rarely to save money.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995

From: "N100Q Tom R. @ MR01 24-Aug-1995 0904" <randolph@est.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [2785] re: Homebrewers Tale of WOE
Message-ID: <9508241325.AA17009@us4rnc.pko.dec.com>

>> I HATE IT WHEN I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING THIS USELESS! FOR GOD'S SAKE!
>> IT'S LIKE A CARPENTER BUILDING HIS OWN HAMMER. IT IS SOMETHING THAT HE
>> COULD BUY OFF THE SHELF...

Not useless at all... the carpenter now knows much more about hammers than he could have hoped to learn as a consumer of them. This gives him an advantage over other hammer users.

- He's not at the mercy of hammer manufacturers' current whim.
- He isn't in search of a "hammer repairman", just in case.
- He can use his new skills to build HIS perfect hammer, rather than settle for whatever's on the shelf.

I went through the whole exercise of learning as much as I could about linear power supplies, with the thought of eventually building one. I even had all the parts ready to go except for the big honking transformer. I got as far as tearing apart a big junk transformer in preparation for rewinding... and ended up buying a nicer supply than the one I was building. A waste? Not to me... I can now look at the schematic of my store-bought supply and figure out exactly why the designer built it that way. If it breaks, I know what to do. And I might still build the 10 amp supply I was working on, but I don't think I'm gonna wind a transformer for it!!

- > Yeah; I'm getting over the urge to "save money" and build it myself.
- > I build plenty of things, even simple things I could buy, but the
- > issues are (to me):
- > A) Can I learn from building it?
- > B) Can I really build it cheaper?
- > C) Will I enjoy building it?

Yah, I've found that most electronic gadgets are available for CHEAPER than you can build it yourself, or about the same price. Money isn't really a reason to build anymore, even with a well stocked junk box. There's always a part or two that's exotic and expensive that puts the price over the top. I build to learn, and for the fun of it!

-Tom R. N100Q randolph@est.enet.dec.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: David Moody <MOODY@Admin.Rose-Hulman.Edu>
Subject: [2790] Re: Homebrewers Tale of WOE
Message-ID: <01HUG43M3J2M8Y4YZD@Admin.Rose-Hulman.Edu>

>Yah, I've found that most electronic gadgets are available for CHEAPER than
>you can build it yourself, or about the same price. Money isn't really a
>reason to build anymore, even with a well stocked junk box. There's always
>a part or two that's exotic and expensive that puts the price over the top.
>I build to learn, and for the fun of it!

If you remember, most of Heathkit's kits were not cheap compared to other already built pieces of equipment, but there was that pride of being able to say, "hey, I built that!" The same goes for me and homebrewing. After you get that last connection soldered, the last nut on the cabinet, you plug it in, and your heart beats strongly and loudly as you first throw the power switch. No smoke. You turn the controls and you get a response. Now your heart starts to slow down, and soon you realize that what you have just built, whether it was from a pile of parts scrounged from old TVs or a kit that somebody produced, works! And you built it! There is a great deal of pride in that, and even if it doesn't work the first time, you keep trying until it does. Again, there is a great deal of pride in knowing that you built it and trouble-shot it and fixed it. And to me, it doesn't matter if it is a Ten-Tec regen rcvr kit, or a 1948 QST article for a one-tube crystal controlled transmitter, as long as I can say, I built it!

72, David Moody, KD8NY

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David A. Moody          | E-mail: David.Moody@Rose-Hulman.edu  
Admin. Programmer/Analyst | Finger: mgrdam@crux.Rose-Hulman.edu  
Rose-Hulman Inst. of Tech. | Amateur Call: KD8NY (CW QRP) ex-WB9MMD  
Terre Haute, IN  USA  47803 | (VMS Rules!!! (but RSTS was fun.))  
Wk Ph:  812.877.8183      |  
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Any facts expressed within belong to everybody.
Any opinions expressed within are my own and are not
necessarily the same as my employer, family, friends, etc.
It is up to you to know the difference.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: Dave Williamson <dcwill@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [2783] Re: Info on 2SC373
Message-ID: <199508241102.EAA12258@ix6.ix.netcom.com>

At 06:54 PM 8/23/95 EDT, you wrote:

>For the person requesting info on the 2SC373

Or you could use an NTE85, if you have access to NTE replacements. That's

from the NTE Quickcross software...

dave aa4zx/8

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: LVE1@inel.gov (Larry East)
Subject: [2797] RE: New Sun Spot Cycle
Message-ID: <9508241913.AA12050@garnet.inel.gov>

Its official now, folks! The following just hot off the wire from the good
'ol ARRoFL:

Subject: ARLX046 Sunspot hints new cycle
SB SPCL @ ARL \$ARLX046
ARLX046 Sunspot hints new cycle

ZCZC AX16
QST de W1AW
Special Bulletin 46 ARLX046
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT August 23, 1995
To all radio amateurs

SB SPCL ARL ARLX046
ARLX046 Sunspot hints new cycle

Astronomers at the California Institute of Technology say they have
identified the first new sunspot in the next sunspot cycle.

Scientists at Caltech's Big Bear Solar Observatory in Big Bear City,
California, photographed the spot on August 12.

'This makes us happy,' said Hal Zirin, professor of astrophysics at
Caltech and director of the Big Bear facility. 'The sun is a lot
more interesting to study when things are going on.'

Early in the 11-year sunspot cycle, sunspots appear rarely and at
relatively high solar latitudes around 30 to 35 degrees, then
increase in frequency and appear at lower latitudes until they reach
sunspot maximum, Caltech said. After this peak in activity, the
number of sunspots slowly declines, and they appear ever closer to
the sun's equator until they reach a relatively quiet phase called
sunspot minimum.

The sun has been in a quiet period through much of 1994 and this

year, with a few spots showing up near the equator. The new sunspot found on August 12 appeared at a solar latitude of 21 degrees, and its magnetic polarity is opposite to that seen over the last decade, a key to identifying it as 'the manifestation' of the start of a new cycle, Caltech said.

Scientists at Caltech said they expected an early beginning to Cycle 23, but not this early. 'Sunspots in the new cycle should rapidly become more common and reach a high level of activity in 1998 or 1999,' Caltech said.

Seems like you folks down there in the southern New Mexico desert need a better PR department!

72, Larry.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [2800] RE: New Sun Spot Cycle
Message-ID: <199508242103.PAA28017@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

> Subject: ARLX046 Sunspot hints new cycle
> SB SPCL @ ARL \$ARLX046
> ARLX046 Sunspot hints new cycle

>Seems like you folks down there in the southern New Mexico desert need a
>better PR department!

>72, Larry.

The context of the ARRL bulletin is virtually word-for-word that of the CalTech official news release issued monday. It was our NRAO/VLA Public Affairs Officer, David Finley N1IRZ, who sent the information to the ARRL and recommended it become an ARRL bulletin.

CalTech's Big Bear facility first observed the sunspot, measured its polarity reversal and recognized it for its scientific significance. Therefore, the credit for "discovering" the start of this solar cycle belongs to CalTech (professional courtesy). The CalTech PR people shared it only with the scientific community; it was a couple of the NRAO hams (like me and Dave Finley) who did the PR with the hams and ARRL once it had been released by CalTech.

And speaking of discoveries, the NRAO has officially observed the first black hole and our own staff astronomer, Dr. Hjellming, credited for the discovery. It has since been verified by other observatories. Prior to this, black holes have only been theoretical and the observational proof has always been missing. You may be hearing/reading about that very soon as well. (Unfortunately, as far as I know, black holes don't do a darn thing for 40M though!). Then there's the comet that's coming in late 1996-1997 that may have real promise. The astronomy business is looking up (poor inside joke).

Paul NA5N

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: LVE1@inel.gov (Larry East)
Subject: [2791] RE: QRO Ops
Message-ID: <9508241510.AA06964@garnet.inel.gov>

My \$0.02 worth on dealing with QRO ops... I have run into a few who suddenly can't copy me anymore after I tell them I am QRP (might be legit -- QSB, QRM etc.) but more often I get some indication of (at least mild) amazement that my 5 watts is putting out such a good signal (539 is good?? oh well...). Anyway, just like in "real life", you will meet all kinds of folks on the ham bands. I always tell 'em how much power I am running -- and if the other guy/gal is running a KW and is copying me 579 or better, I hope it makes him/her feel guilty!

I have been known to run as much as 100 Watts at times (please! no flames!), and always go out of my way to answer a CQ/QRP call, reducing my power to QRP level if band conditions are good enough. Sometimes the QRP station is using a much better antenna (or poorer receiver?) than I am, and I can copy his 1-5 Watts better than he can copy my 100 Watts!

72, Larry W1HUE/7

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: Jim Eshleman <lujce@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [2799] Re: QRP-L Logo
Message-ID: <95Aug24.164122edt.14522-4+24@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Chuck sez:

> 1. Create your idea(s) and get them into .gif and .ps (PostScript)

> format.
> 2. We'll have Jim Eshlman at LeHigh.EDU set aside a directory
> in which to put them along with how to put them in the incoming
> directory.
> 3. We need a cutoff date, say September 15th to terminate input.
> 4. We'll then list them for everyone's examination and then we
> will as a group vote on one to become the official "patch"
> of the IQ Club (Internet QRP-L Club). No officers, no paperwork,
> no newsletter, and only one meeting a year and that is at Dayton.

You can FTP your entry (or entries :-) to ftp.Lehigh.EDU and place them in pub/listserv/qrp-l/incoming. Don't forget to use binary mode for GIF files. If your "put" command works then don't worry, the file is there. The directory is writable but not readable. If you need to use some other format I'll try to convert it to GIF or PostScript. If you can't FTP then UUEncode the file and e-mail it to me. All entries will be moved eventually to pub/listserv/qrp-l/patch, will be available via ftp or the list server (GET QRP-L/PATCH filename), and will have a filename of call.ps or call.gif or whatever. I guess after the voting one of the files will be copied to pub/listserv/qrp-l/patch/official.gif and official.ps.

Jim N3VXI

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: Clark Savage Turner WA3JPG <turner@safety.ICS.UCI.EDU>
Subject: [2776] Re: Telling a contact that you are QRP...
Message-ID: <17830.809217917@safety.ics.uci.edu>

Interesting stuff being discussed. Noting on the QSL that we appreciate people with good ears and antennas who can skillfully dig us out of the noise is a great idea.

The original post stated that when the QRP station gave his power, the other station turned his power down making copy difficult. That was pretty awful. It COULD be turned to advantage under the right conditions.

I have experienced this: I tell the other guy I am running 2 watts after a round or two, and that my rig is home built and a club project. He comes back that it is pretty good because he still copies at 559 or something. I suggest he try turning his power down to whatever his wattmeter says is about 5 or 10 watts and see if I can still hear him. Often, it works really well and the other station is pretty impressed that 5 or 10 watts still works. I then compliment the operator's antenna installation and make a real effort to stay with him to the natural end of the QSO.

Haven't made any big time conversions this way, but I know I have planted the seed!

72

Clark
WA3JPG

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Aug 24 19:38:00 1995
From: carreiro@netcom.com (Paul Carreiro)
Subject: [2782] Re: Telling a contact that you are QRP...
Message-ID: <199508240547.WAA05317@netcom11.netcom.com>

> (Great stuff snipped)
> I suggest he try turning his
> power down to whatever his wattmeter says is about 5 or 10 watts
> and see if I can still hear him. Often, it works really well and
> the other station is pretty impressed that 5 or 10 watts still
> works. I then compliment the operator's antenna installation and
> make a real effort to stay with him to the natural end of the QSO.
> Haven't made any big time conversions this way, but I know I have
> planted the seed!
> 72
> Clark
> WA3JPG

Clark! Fellow Zuni! This is exactly how I was converted from QRO to QRP. Many many years ago I was operating QROo with a Heath SB221 linear amp running full bore on 40 mtrs when I strong signal (10 dB over S9) bame back to my CQ. The fellow (can't remember state or call sign) came back saying he was running 2 watts and "How much power are you running?". I was embarassed to say the least. Instead of telling him what I was running, I just said "Well, let me turn the amp off here to see if you can still copy."

We proceded to have a great rag chew. With every pass of the hat we would crank down the power more and more. By the time our QSO and nearing the end, the carrier control on my TS430S was completly CCW, max nadda. My bird watt meter (1KW slug replaced with the 50 watt slug) was not registering any movement. I'm not exactly sure how little power I was running, but it was certainly under a half watt. My RST at that point was 539, no problem copy. On his side, he had turned down to 750 milliwatts, and I had a great 549 copy on him.

So, it is possible to kill a giant when you are slinging just a few pebbles. Yes, I still own that SB221 amp, but I've been eyeing it for a neat cabinet

for my next QRP project. Lots of room for all those extras like a keyer, scaf filter, heck even the batteries. What a kick it would be to convert that QROo unit to QRPP. Am I looney or what?

72 all!

Paul N6HCS

--

Paul F. Carreiro - N6HCS - E-Mail: carreiro@netcom.com
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NorCal QRP #367 / QRP QRCI #8885 / FISTS #1407
Zuni Loop Mountain Expeditionary Force (Rookie)